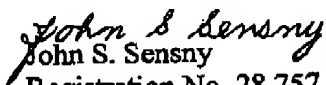


In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that the original Declaration was not signed and requested a signed Declaration.

Accordingly, applicants filed a signed Declaration on April 23, 2001. If the Examiner needs a copy of this signed Declaration, the Examiner is asked to telephone the undersigned.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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JSS:jy